

# NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

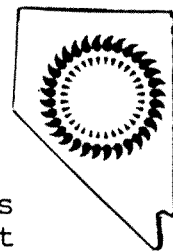
## Office of the State Climatologist

Offices:  
226 and 322 Mackay Science  
(702) 784-1723

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John W. James  
State Climatologist  
Mackay Science Hall  
University of Nevada-Reno  
Reno, NV 89557



### SYNOPSIS

JUL 27 1990

#### Documents Section

June was the 4th month in a row with generally above normal temperatures. However, the big weather stories this month were the record rainfall at Las Vegas, and the record heat in Southern Nevada. The .97" of rain recorded at Las Vegas Airport (.82" on the 10th) was 10 times the monthly normal, the most June rain since modern day airport records began in 1948, and the second wettest June since first measurements were made in Las Vegas back in 1895 at the old Kiel Ranch. June 1938, with 1.55" at "Pop" Squire's downtown location on Fremont Street, was the wettest. Unfortunately, this welcome thunderstorm rain was not general, as .66" fell in suburban Spring Valley, .32" at Boulder City, and only .13" at nearby Mountain Springs Summit. Mt. Charleston Fire Station had 1.16".

The record heat story was supplied by the Colorado River communities of Laughlin and Cottonwood Cove, as thermometers there rose to 122 degrees on the 26th, tying the State high for any month. This seemingly "impossible to pass barrier" has been reached several times before at several places, most recently in July 1985 by the same two locations. Echo Bay and Overton have also officially recorded this same mark more than once in past years.

### TEMPERATURES

Temperatures averaged a little above normal in all but the extreme Northeast. Departures ranged from almost two degrees below normal at Mountain City, to 3 1/2 degrees above normal at Reno, and 4 degrees above at Searchlight. Most of the State was in the plus 1/2 to plus 2 1/2 degree category.

The month began with near record cool readings on the 1st at many locations. Manhattan (near Smokey Valley) had 20 degrees and Upper Incline (in the Tahoe Basin) 22 degrees, while mountaintop instruments near Reno recorded 20 degrees at 8400 foot Peavine Mountain, and 14 degrees atop 9700 foot Slide Mountain. The month ended with near record warmth at some sites, punctuated by the Colorado River 120 degree plus marks. Laughlin also had 12 days with 115 degree plus readings!

### PRECIPITATION

Summer thunderstorms caused a patchwork of above and below normal precipitation in the Silver State. Generally, the Northwest was drier than normal (0-70 % of normal), the Northeast a hodge-podge ranging from 175% of normal at Beowawe and over 200% at Lund and Great Basin National Park to only 21% at Mountain City. Southcentral Nevada was similarly split, with

175% at Tonopah to less than 10% at Hawthorne and Silverpeak. Extreme Southern Nevada ranged from ten times normal at Las Vegas Airport to less than 5% at Amargosa Garey.

Nevada's wettest location this month was Lund, (near Ely) where 2.25" fell, and 1.50" on the 10th. Emigrant Pass (near Elko) had 1.64" and 1.10" on the 14th, and Great Basin National Park 1.55", with 1.12" on the 1st, along with 6" of snowfall at the 6800 foot Park Headquarters, and several inches more at higher elevations. At nearby Shoshone Robert Bransford recorded 1.54". Incidentally, last Fall the State Climate Office installed a storage precipitation gage at the 10,000 foot level of Great Basin National Park, and this Wheeler Peak Campground gage collected 23.15" from October 1989 through mid-July 1990. During the same period the nearby, over 3000 feet lower Park Headquarters had about one half as much. This was near normal for the period.

The driest locations in the Silver State this month were in the Northwest where Denio, Sparks, Lahontan Dam, and Kings River Valley had no measurable rainfall.

Water year (October 1, 1989--June 30, 1990) precipitation now ranges from less than 25% of normal in parts of Extreme Southern and South Central Nevada, to 125% in parts of the Northeast and in the Fallon-Lovelock Area of the Northwest. East slope Sierra Nevada Watersheds are in the 50-75% of normal category.

#### SUNSHINE, WIND AND EVAPORATION

Sunshine hours were near or a little above normal Statewide with 94% of the possible hours at Las Vegas (92% normal), 92% at Winnemucca (75% normal), 88% at Reno (85% normal), and 79% at Ely (80% normal).

Wind speeds also averaged above normal, with significant gusts at Logandale on the 5th (56 mph), and NW Reno on the 4th (51 mph). Atop 8400 foot Peavine Mountain near Reno a gust reached 80 mph on the 1st.

Evaporation was above normal in the South, where Silverpeak had 17.51", Boulder City 16.52", Logandale 14.98" and Pahrump 14.37", but below normal elsewhere. In the north, Reno-UNR had 10.47", Rye Patch Dam 9.57", Ruby Valley 9.36", Fallon 9.71" and Minden 8.94".

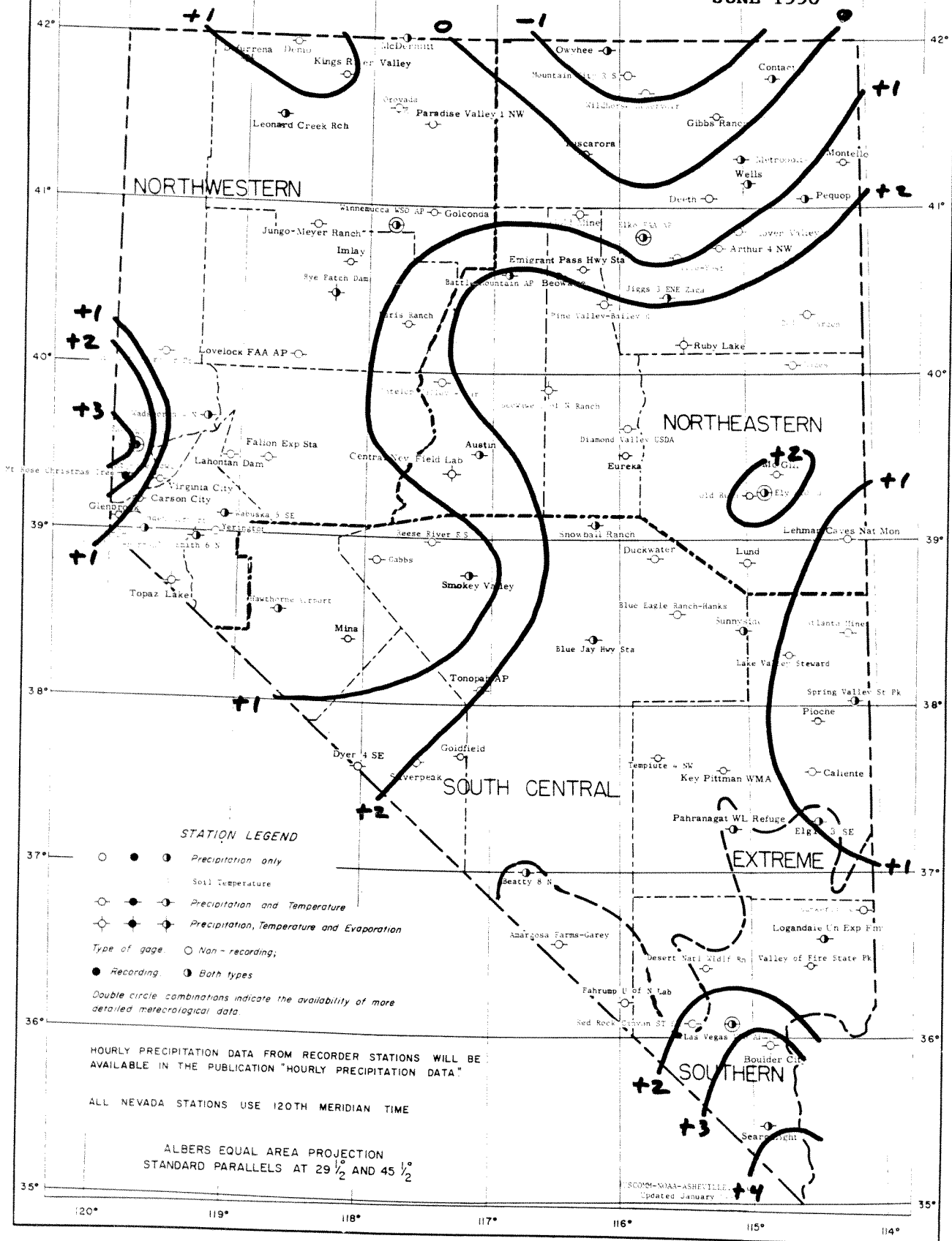
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State Climatologist

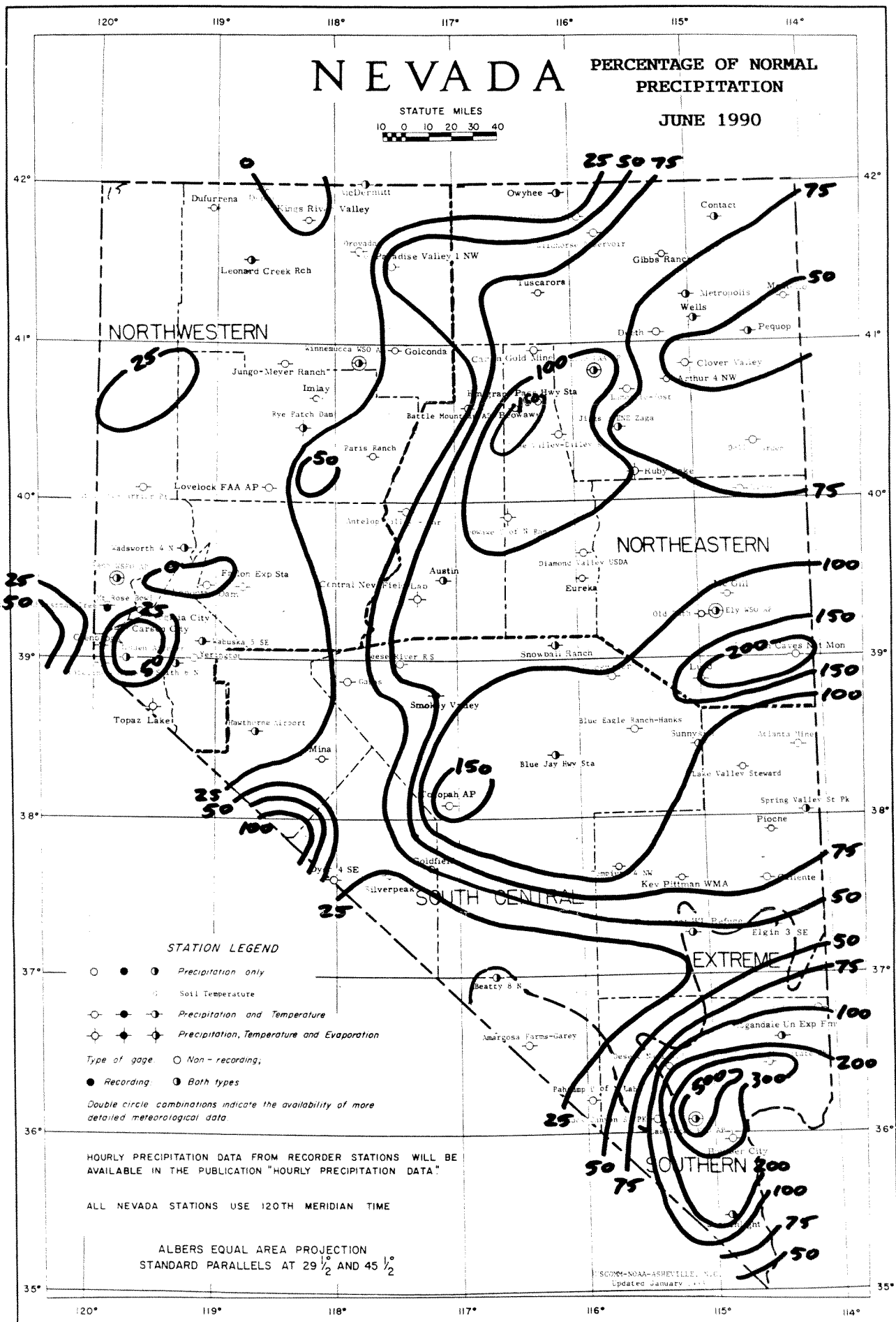
# NEVADA

DEPARTURE OF MEAN  
TEMPERATURE FROM NORMAL  
(°F)

JUNE 1990

STATUTE MILES  
10 0 10 20 30 40





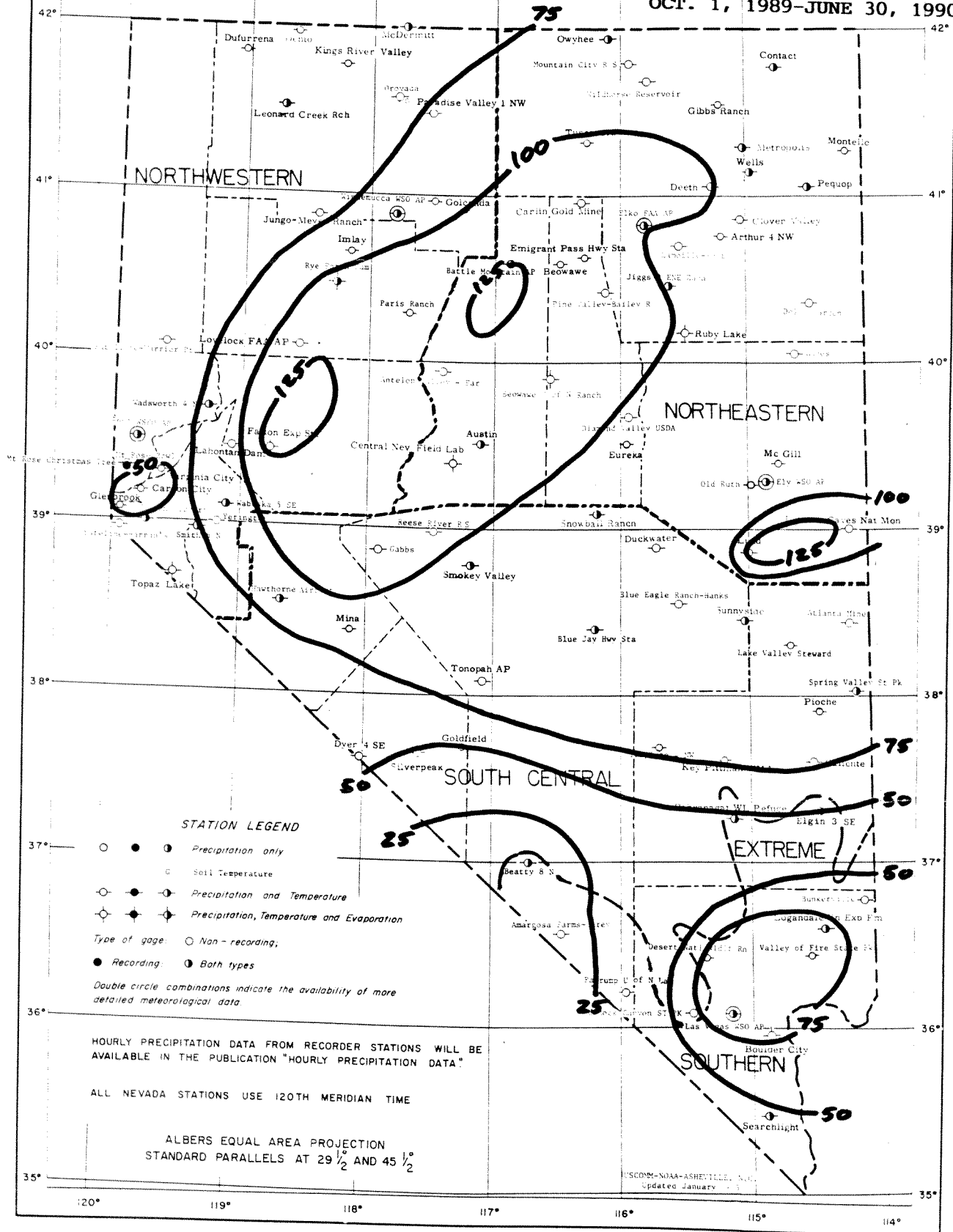
# NEVADA

## PERCENTAGE OF NORMAL PRECIPITATION

WATER YEAR 1989-90

OCT. 1, 1989-JUNE 30, 1990

STATUTE MILES  
0 10 20 30 40



### STATION LEGEND

- ● ○ Precipitation only
- ● Soil Temperature
- ● Precipitation and Temperature
- ● Precipitation, Temperature and Evaporation
- Type of gage: ○ Non-recording,
- Recording, ○ Both types

Double circle combinations indicate the availability of more detailed meteorological data

HOURLY PRECIPITATION DATA FROM RECORDER STATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE PUBLICATION "HOURLY PRECIPITATION DATA"

ALL NEVADA STATIONS USE 120TH MERIDIAN TIME

ALBERS EQUAL AREA PROJECTION  
STANDARD PARALLELS AT 29 1/2° AND 45 1/2°

USCOM-NOAA-ASHEVILLE, N.C.  
Updated January 1991

